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Title: Need to increase the number of poor patients to be covered under Prime Minister Relief Funds

SHRIMATI M. VASANTHI (TENKASI): Madam, I thank you very much for this opportunity to represent a common important issue in this august House. Lakhs of poor people are benefited by the Prime Minister's Relief Fund which was introduced by the Union Government. So far, 11 patients of my constituency have been benefited in the current financial year.

Now, hundreds of patients from my constituency have applied for Prime Minister's Relief Fund. As per the present norm, the quota allotted to one MP constituency per annum is very less and insufficient.

In Tamil Nadu, *Makkal Mudalwar* Puratchi Thalaivi Amma has introduced a Medical Insurance Scheme and a lot of poor patients are being benefited. Compared to other States, Tamil Nadu stands first in the Medical Insurance Scheme. Even the Union Minister of Health had also appreciated our *Makkal Mudalwar* Puratchi Thalaivi Amma.

The aim of the Relief Fund is to save the life of the patient by allotting the fund at right time. In conclusion, I would urge upon the hon. Prime Minister to intervene and increase the present quota allotted to MP constituency to 70 patients per annum. He should also take steps to allot the Fund quickly so as to save the lives of patients.